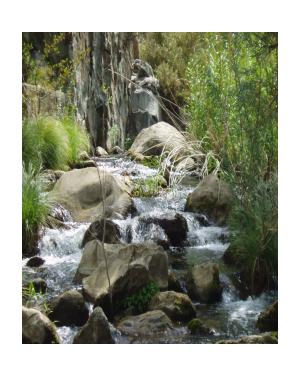


Ventura Countywide Municipal Stormwater Program and Draft RWQCB Permit





#### Presentation Overview

- Ventura County Overview
- Countywide NPDES Program
- Draft Permit Highlights
- Issues
- Estimated Costs
- Summary



#### **Ventura County Overview**

- 4 Major watersheds
  - Distinct dominant land-use and H&H patterns
  - Watershed councils/management plans
  - Advanced process modeling
- Land Coverage
  - 12% Urban Area
  - 8% Agriculture
  - 80% Open Space
- Population ~835,000
  - 10 cities
  - 4 cities >100,000 (Phase 1)
  - 6 Cities (Phase 2)



#### Stormwater Permit Co-Permittees

#### 1992 - Implementation Agreement Signed Between:

- Watershed Protection District
- County of Ventura
- \* 10 Cities in the County of Ventura

Camarillo Fillmore

Port Hueneme Moorpark

Ojai Oxnard

San Buenaventura Santa Paula

Simi Valley Thousand Oaks

Principal Co-Permittee: Ventura County Watershed Protection District



# Ventura Countywide Program History

The 1994 permit defined the basic program elements including:

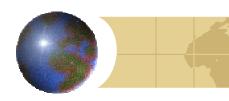
- Public outreach
- Business inspection
- Construction, land development, public infrastructure, & illicit discharge inspections
- Monitoring of dry and wet weather runoff.



# Ventura Countywide Program History

The 2000 Permit, currently on administrative extension, required the Co-permittees to:

- Enhance existing program elements
- Develop new fiscal analysis requirements
- Conduct educational site visits
- Technical Guidance Manual for all new development and redevelopment projects



## Exemplary Program

- Best Municipal Program in Nation
- Cooperative approach
- WQ priority and vision





### 2006 3rd Term Permit Draft

- On December 27, 2006, RWQCB comprehensive and prescriptive Draft Permit
- Permit significantly increases each Permittee's responsibilities and activities
- Significant cost implications



#### TOP 5 Permit Issues:

- Municipal Action Limits (MAL's)
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's)
- Increased Monitoring
- Public Agency/Land-use Requirements
- Hydromodification



#### MAL's:

- Attempt at "quantifiable" performance measures
- Measured at end of pipe
- Subject to fines
- Counter to Federal and State Maximum Extent Practical
- Numeric limit in disguise



## Numeric Limits - Legal

Numeric Limits Contrary to EPA Policy:

"In regulating stormwater permits the EPA has repeatedly expressed a preference for doing so by way of BMPs, rather than by way of imposing technology based or water quality based numerical limitations." (Divers' v. SWRCB (2006) 145 Cal.App.4th 246, 256.)



## Numeric Limits - Legal

Contrary to SWRCB's Blue Ribbon Panel Report:

"It is <u>not feasible</u> at this time to set <u>enforceable numeric</u> <u>effluent criteria</u> for municipal BMPs and in particular urban discharges.....

For catchments not treated by a structural or treatment BMP, <u>setting a numeric effluent limit is basically not possible</u>."



#### TMDL's

- TMDL's = safety net for NPDES programs
- Separate sections of CWA
- Monitoring and Compliance with TMDLs included
- Problem separation of mixed waters



#### **MONITORING:**

- Expensive
- Reasoned approach (vision)
- Leverage all monitoring efforts
- Proceed stepwise up the watershed



## Public Agency Requirements:

- Obtain General SW Construction Permit coverage for Capital Improvement Projects 1 acre or more in size, including street repaving, new streets, channel clearing
- Trash Excluders for all areas zoned Commercial, Industrial or near schools



## Land-use Requirements:

- Reduce Effective Impervious Area to less than 5% of total project area;
- Low Impact Development principles for all new and redevelopment projects that add or replace 5,000 square feet or more of impervious area;
- Moratorium on Hillside construction from October 1st to April 15th with slope greater than 20% slope, or 303(d) listed waterbodies for sediment, or areas mapped for ESA.



## Hydromodification:

- Objective is to maintain the Project's pre-development storm water runoff flow rates and durations
  - Hydrologic control in natural drainage systems shall be achieved by maintaining the Erosion Potential (Ep) in streams at a value of 1





### OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORT



## Special Studies

- Trash and Debris Study Quantify trash and debris, and type from coastal areas and beaches within County of Ventura
- Pyrethroid Insecticides Study
- SCCWRP's Hydromodification Control Study
- Low Impact Development Guidance Manual
- Southern California Bight Project Participate



## Legal – Authority, Mandate, Coverage

- CWA vs. Porter/Cologne (unfunded mandates)
- MALs used to determine Compliance with Federal Clean Water Act's MEP
- Coverage "areas undergoing urbanization" vs. "urban areas"



#### RWQCB Process Issues:

- TRUST same team/same goals
- Recognition of local commitment and expertise
- Limited interaction with staff and stakeholders
- Responsibility for issues outside of control

## RWQCB Perception Issues:

15 years of "little" or "no" progress

"Permittees rudderless without permit guidance"

"Permittees only act as a consequence of permit requirements"





#### REVENUES AND EXPENSES



## Current Program Revenues WPD WQ Benefit Assessment

Principal Permittee Program:	\$1.4 million
Co-Permittee's Program:	\$1.6 million
Total Revenue:	\$3 million



## Currently permittees' expenditures exceed \$15M/year

Community polling shows support for PRF total of \$7M/year

# Estimated 3<sup>rd</sup> Term Permit Costs: (with TMDLs)

	Annual Cost \$/Household			
Program	Current Effort	Draft Order Baseline	Baseline + Trash Excluders	Baseline + Excluders + MAL Compliance+T MDLs
Statewide Study Range Mean	\$18-46 \$29	 		
Ventura County Range Mean	·			
	\$18-44 \$35	 \$60	 \$87	 \$400



## Permit Adoption Process

- December 2006 1st Draft Permit
- April 2007 1<sup>st</sup> RWQCB Permit Workshop (Burbank)
- Summer 2007 RWQCB and Countywide Permittee Staff Meetings – Issue Committees
- August 2007 2nd Draft Permit
- September 2007 2<sup>nd</sup> RWQCB Permit Workshop (Ventura)
- Winter 2008 Tentative Order
- June 2008 RWQCB Hearing Tentative Order adoption



## CONCLUSION

Goal – Improvement and Protection of Water Quality

Increasing Effort = Increasing Cost
 Desire Increased Cost = Improved WQ





#### **Questions/Comments**



## Current Permit Costs Fiscal Year 2005-2006:

Camarillo	16%
County of Ventura	8%
Fillmore	5%
Moorpark	20%
Ojai	20%
Oxnard	25%
Port Hueneme	6%
San Buenaventura	22%
Santa Paula	0%
Simi Valley	3%
Thousand Oaks	35%
VCWPD	0%